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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
SECONDO DOTTORI : EXAMINER:
SERIAL NO.: NEW APPLICATION :
FILED: HERewith : GROUP ART UNIT:
FOR: STORAGE AND MAINTENANCE
OF BLOOD PRODUCTS INCLUDING
RED BLOOD CELLS AND PLATELETS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry and consideration of the following amendments.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 9, lines 11-16, as follows:

--Figure 5a and 5b. The carnitine system and membrane phospholipid reacylation reactions. Thicker arrows indicate the preferential acyl flux. The dimension of the acylcarnitine box shows the likely related pool size. Abbreviations used are: LPL, lysophospholipids; PLP, phospholipids; Cn, carnitine; acyl-Cn, acyl-carnitine; ACS, acyl-CoA synthetase; LAT, lysophospholipid acyl-CoA transferase; CPT, carnitine palmitoyltransferase.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-56, without prejudice toward the further prosecution of these claims in a Continuation and/or Divisional Application.

Please add the following new claims:

57. (New) A method for suppressing bacterial growth in a blood fraction, comprising adding to a blood fraction a compound selected from the group consisting of L-carnitine, salts of L-carnitine, alkanoyl carnitines, salts of alkanoyl carnitines, and mixtures thereof, in an amount effective to suppress bacterial growth in said blood fraction,

wherein said blood fraction is a platelet concentrate, and wherein said method comprises suspending said platelet concentrate in a support solution which comprises said compound.

58. (New) The method of Claim 57, wherein said compound is comprised in a support solution in a concentration of 0.25 to 50 mM.

59. (New) The method of Claim 57, wherein said compound is comprised in a support solution in a concentration of 1 to 30 mM.

60. (New) The method of Claim 57, wherein said compound is L-carnitine.

61. (New) The method of Claim 57, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of acetyl L-carnitine, propionyl L- carnitine, butyryl L-carnitine, isobutyryl L-carnitine, valeryl L-carnitine, and isovaleryl L-carnitine.

62. (New) A method of reducing glycolysis in a blood fraction, comprising adding to a blood fraction a compound selected from the group consisting of L-carnitine, salts of L-carnitine, alkanoyl carnitines, salts of alkanoyl carnitines, and mixtures thereof, in an amount effective to reduce glycolysis in said blood fraction,

wherein said blood fraction is a platelet concentrate, and wherein said method

comprises suspending said platelet concentrate in a support solution which comprises said compound.

63. (New) The method of Claim 62, wherein said compound is comprised in a support solution in a concentration of 0.25 to 50 mM.

64. (New) The method of Claim 62, wherein said compound is comprised in a support solution in a concentration of 1 to 30 mM.

65. (New) The method of Claim 62, wherein said compound is L-carnitine.

66. (New) The method of Claim 62, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of acetyl L-carnitine, propionyl L- carnitine, butyryl L-carnitine, isobutyryl L-carnitine, valeryl L-carnitine, and isovaleryl L-carnitine.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Applicant has canceled Claims 1-56 and added new Claims 57-66. Support for Claims 57-61 can be found in Claims 37, 41, and 43-46, as originally filed. Support for Claims 62-66 can be found in Claims 47, 51, and 53-56, as originally filed.

No new matter has been added. Claims 57-66 are active in this application.

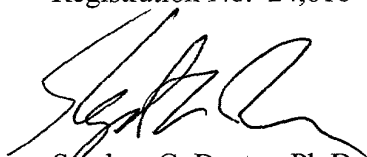
REMARKS

Applicant submits that the application is now ready for examination on the merits,
and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 9, lines 11-16, as follows:

--[Figure 5] Figures 5a and 5b. The carnitine system and membrane phospholipid reacylation reactions. Thicker arrows indicate the preferential acyl flux. The dimension of the acylcarnitine box shows the likely related pool size. Abbreviations used are: LPL, lysophospholipids; PLP, phospholipids; Cn, carnitine; acyl-Cn, acyl-carnitine; ACS, acyl-CoA synthetase; LAT, lysophospholipid acyl-CoA transferase; CPT, carnitine palmitoyltransferase.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-56, without prejudice toward the further prosecution of these claims in a Continuation and/or Divisional Application.

Please add the following new claims:

--57. (New) to 66. (New)--